

tributed by the secretary to each participating private hospital. Each hospital thus builds up its own bad-debt file and has in alphabetical order the bad-debt accounts of all the other hospitals in the community. The system has already proved its worth by revealing several patients who have had bad-debt records in several hospitals, where the second hospital has innocently extended credit to the patient who was already on another hospital's bad-debt list. Should such a patient again apply to a second hospital for credit, his past bad-debt record will already have preceded him and will be on file at the hospital. The second hospital will thus be in a position of refusing the bad credit risk or demanding adequate credit protection, and even demanding that the original hospital bill be paid to the other hospital before further credit is extended. This coöperative system promises to save the hospital members of the East Bay Hospital Conference many thousands of dollars of unpaid hospital accounts.

Following are the hospitals included in the Conference: Alameda County Hospital, Alameda Sanatorium, Alta Bates Hospital, Berkeley General Hospital, Children's Hospital, Cowell Memorial Hospital, East Oakland Hospital, Fairmount Hospital, Merritt Hospital, Peralta Hospital, Providence Hospital, and Richmond Cottage Hospital.

Respectfully submitted,

ALFRED E. MAFFLY,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Concerning Clinical Laboratory Law of California: Chapter 804, Statutes 1937.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

San Francisco, California,
January 26, 1938.

To the Editor:—We thought you might be interested in the enclosed copy of Opinion No. NS-812, rendered on January 13, 1938, to the Board of Chiropractic Examiners by Attorney-General U. S. Webb, Lionel Browne, Deputy, and leave to your discretion whether same should be published in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE.

Very truly yours,

C. B. PINKHAM, M.D.,
Secretary-Treasurer.

(Editor's Note: The above opinion appears in the Special Article section in this issue, on page 230.)

Concerning Dr. A. W. Meyer's Article.*

Stanford University, California.
January 24, 1938.

To the Editor:—I heartily appreciated receiving a complimentary copy of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE for January, and I am greatly indebted to you for your generous and comprehending comment on my article. Since a companion article dealing with conditions in the shoulder, which appeared in the *Archives of Surgery*, actually did attract attention both at home and abroad, you should feel especially complimented on your words. Time may show that I am mistaken in some of my interpretations, but none of us here have been able to think of any other explanation than that offered, and in any case the destructions are such that medical men can no longer ignore them.

Stanford University,
Department of Anatomy.

With warmest regards,

Very gratefully yours,

A. W. MEYER.

Concerning rabies quarantine in Los Angeles County.

February 9, 1938.

To Members of the State Board of Public Health:

Report of action of Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in re request to outline extent of area to be included in rabies quarantine:

Doctor Pomeroy was called before the Board of Supervisors on February 8. Supervisor Legg led the opposition

on all details, stating that dog lovers would be flooding the Supervisors' chambers. Supervisor Lee Ford said if there could be exceptions in Santa Monica and Malibu districts, he would be in favor of the quarantine.

Mr. Roland McNitt, attorney representing dog owners of Altadena and Pasadena, spoke in favor, and recommended that the Supervisors approve Doctor Pomeroy's suggestions sent the State Department of Public Health.

Supervisor McDonough was in favor, and said that it meant if the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approve Doctor Pomeroy's request, that the quarantine established by the State could be modified from time to time as conditions warranted.

Supervisor Jessup moved that the Supervisors direct a letter to the Director of the State Department of Public Health giving their approval to Doctor Pomeroy's request.

Mrs. Rosamond Mae Wright, representing the dog owners, said she was in favor of this, but that in former days some of the officials in charge of quarantine misdirected their activities. She said the place for dogs is in yards, in homes, or on leash.

Doctor Pomeroy reported on spot quarantines, and stated that the city of West Covina was drawing up stringent regulations with reference to rabies, and also that the State quarantine was in effect at Long Beach. (Long Beach not under quarantine.)

Doctor Pomeroy agreed to every exemption which was requested in the matter of territory.

It was agreed that a letter be addressed to the State Board of Public Health approving Doctor Pomeroy's request, and that the Supervisors outline the area they desired placed under quarantine. This letter is supposed to be mailed Wednesday or Thursday of this week. On receipt of same, copy of the proposed quarantine will be forwarded to the members of the Board, with the request that they approve or disapprove.*

Very truly yours,

WALTER M. DICKIE, M.D.,
Director of Public Health.

Concerning a Spanish edition of the United States Pharmacopoeia.

COMMITTEE ON REVISION
OF THE

PHARMACOPOEIA OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
1930-1940

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
February 4, 1938.

To the Editor:—I enclose an announcement of the publication of the United States Pharmacopoeia, Eleventh Revision, in the Spanish language. This has just been released, and I would appreciate your making this announcement in the current number of your journal.

This service which the Pharmacopoeia has rendered in those divisions of the United States where the Spanish language is spoken and in Cuba, is also being appreciated in other Pan-American countries. It is a friendly gesture, and through many years has assisted in establishing a contact with the republics of Central and South American countries, which is very important in our Pan-American relations.

E. FULLERTON COOK,
Chairman, United States Pharmacopoeia
Committee on Revision.

✓ ✓ ✓

A NEW SPANISH EDITION OF THE UNITED STATES
PHARMACOPOEIA

The Spanish Edition of the United States Pharmacopoeia, Eleventh Decennial Revision (U. S. P. XI), sponsored by the Board of Trustees of the United States Pharmacopoeial Convention, has just come from the press.

This edition was translated under the auspices of the Pan-American Sanitary Bureau in Washington. It forms a volume of 695 pages, with a detailed index, and at the end there is a list of official titles in both English and Spanish. Auxiliary Committees of Cuba, the Philippines, and Puerto Rico took part in the work of translation.

This is the fourth edition of the United States Pharmacopoeia which has been translated into Spanish and published

*Refers to article, "Use Destruction in the Human Body," in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, December issue.

*By vote of the State Board, the quarantine was approved.

by the United States Pharmacopoeia Board of Trustees. It was originally provided for use in the Philippines and Puerto Rico and also in Cuba, where it was promptly adopted as the official Pharmacopoeia. It is now also official in Costa Rica, Nicaragua (together with the French Codex), Panama, and the Dominican Republic.

The Board of Trustees, in announcing this new edition to the health departments of the republics of Central and South America have expressed the hope that it may be useful to them in the preparation of their own pharmacopoeias, and that it may assist in bringing about uniformity in titles, strengths, and standards of purity among the medicines used in Pan-American countries.

As it has required considerable time for the translation and printing of the Spanish Edition, alterations and corrections, published in the U. S. P., XI, First Supplement, which became official December 1, 1937, have been incorporated.

The book is now on sale by the distributors, The Business Publishers International Corporation, 330 West Forty-second Street, New York, N. Y.

Concerning the conquest of syphilis and gonorrhea. A statement from Surgeon-General Thomas Parran.

To the Editor: The conquest of syphilis and gonorrhea is not a task for official health agencies alone, nor yet for physicians alone. It still is a task for the whole people.

The American Social Hygiene Association is the one national voluntary agency primarily concerned with the prevention and cure of the venereal diseases. It is an organization through which citizens everywhere have an opportunity to do their part in this task.

The Association has been and continues to be not merely a valuable, but an indispensable ally of health authorities and the medical profession in their battles against these diseases. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Association and as a public official, I long have been in a position to observe how important to official health activities is the work of this voluntary agency and its affiliated state and local groups.

The Association's work is particularly needed just now to sustain the new national interest in the dangers of syphilis and gonorrhea, to explain approved measures of control and encourage their practical application, and to aid in the correction of social and educational conditions which favor the spread of these diseases.

By the union of public and private efforts we can minimize syphilis and gonorrhea and the ill health, suffering and waste they cause.

THOMAS PARRAN.

Concerning "The Foundation Prize" of the American Association of Obstetricians, Gynecologists, and Abdominal Surgeons.

Huntington, West Virginia,
January 11, 1938.

To the Editor:—Since the announcement a few weeks ago of the award to be made by this Association there have been many inquiries received by the secretary.

I am enclosing to you a copy of the rules governing the awarding of this prize. I will appreciate it very much if you will run this in your journal as a news note. There may be members of the profession in your State who would be desirous of submitting a manuscript in this competition.

With my very kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

JAMES R. BLOSS, M.D.,
Secretary.

✓ ✓ ✓

Rules governing the award of "The Foundation Prize" of the American Association of Obstetricians, Gynecologists, and Abdominal Surgeons:

1. The award, which shall be known as "The Foundation Prize," shall consist of \$500.

2. Eligible contestants shall include only (a) interns, residents, or graduate students in obstetrics, gynecology, or abdominal surgery, and (b) physicians (with an M.D. degree) who are actively practicing or teaching obstetrics, gynecology, or abdominal surgery.

3. Manuscripts must be presented under a nom de plume, which shall in no way indicate the author's identity, to the secretary of the Association together with a sealed envelope

bearing the nom de plume and containing a card showing the name and address of the contestant.

4. Manuscripts must be limited to 5,000 words, and must be typewritten in double-spacing on one side of the sheet. Ample margins should be provided. Illustrations should be limited to such as are required for a clear exposition of the thesis.

5. The successful thesis shall become the property of the Association, but this provision shall in no way interfere with publication of the communication in the journal of the author's choice. Unsuccessful contributions will be returned promptly to their authors.

6. All manuscripts entered in a given year must be in the hands of the secretary before June 1.

7. The award will be made at the annual meetings of the Association, at which time the successful contestant must appear in person to present his contribution as a part of the regular scientific program, in conformity with the rules of the Association. The successful contestant must meet all expenses incident to this presentation.

8. The president of the Association shall annually appoint a Committee on Award, which, under its own regulations shall determine the successful contestant and shall inform the secretary of his name and address at least two weeks before the annual meeting.

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE†

By HARTLEY F. PEART, ESQ.
San Francisco

The Legal Status of Physicians Under the Workmen's Compensation Act

Summary of Industrial Accident Legislation.—In 1918 the people of California adopted a constitutional amendment which created an Industrial Accident Commission and vested in the legislature plenary power to create and enforce a complete system of workmen's compensation. The constitutional amendment defines such a system as including "full provision for such medical, surgical, hospital and other remedial treatment as is requisite to cure and relieve from the effects of such injury." (Article XX, Section 21, Cal. Const.)

The Workmen's Compensation Act, adopted by the legislature pursuant to the constitutional provision, uses the following language with respect to medical and hospital treatment: "Where liability for compensation under this Act exists, such compensation shall be furnished or paid by the employer and be as provided in the following schedule: (a) Such medical, surgical, and hospital treatment, including nursing, medicine, medical and surgical supplies . . . as may reasonably be required to cure and relieve from the effects of the injury, *the same to be provided by the employer*, and in case of his neglect or refusal seasonably to do so, the employer to be liable for the reasonable expense incurred by or on behalf of the employee in providing the same; provided, that if the employee so requests the employer shall tender him one change of physician and shall nominate at least three additional practicing physicians competent to treat the particular case, or as many as may be available if three cannot reasonably be named, from whom the employee may choose; the employee shall also be entitled, in any serious case, upon request, to the services of a consulting physician to be provided by the employer; *all of said treatment to be at the expense of the employer.*" (Deering's General Laws, Act 4749, Section 9a.)

Section 16 of the Workmen's Compensation Act provides for medical examinations of employees upon written request of the employer, which examinations are to be made by a practicing physician and are to be paid for by the employer.

Thus it may be seen that, under the Workmen's Compensation Act, medical, surgical and hospital treatment must be made available to injured employees, and the services must be rendered by physicians *selected and paid for by the employer*. The Act authorizes employers to protect themselves against liability for compensation (which includes cash award and medical and surgical treatment

† Editor's Note.—This department of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, containing copy submitted by Hartley F. Peart, Esq., will contain excerpts from and syllabi of recent decisions and analyses of legal points and procedures of interest to the profession.